

Motor Carrier Management and Threat Assessment Study
Conducted by the Volpe National Transportation Research Center
For the
D.C. Department of Transportation

Study Summary
October 2, 2003

Project Purpose

The purpose of the study is to:

1. Develop a comprehensive Motor Carrier Management Program for the District of Columbia to improve truck operations and safety within the city.
2. Review and modify truck routes to protect neighborhoods from unnecessary truck traffic.
3. Review and modify truck loading and unloading operations and policies to improve deliveries and reduce traffic congestion.
4. Address security concerns related to truck operations within the District of Columbia.

Background

The D.C. Department of Transportation fields numerous requests from District residents to reduce the impact of truck traffic on residential communities. Specific concerns related to heavy trucks on residential streets include traffic safety concerns, noise and vibration caused by truck traffic. Since the truck bomb explosion at the Federal Building in Oklahoma City, OK, the Federal government has expressed a keen interest in restricting truck traffic surrounding sensitive federal facilities in the District. This concern was heightened after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2002. As a result of this concern several roadways in the District have been closed to traffic, or have been closed to truck traffic.

This comprehensive Motor Carrier Management and Threat Assessment Study is designed to address these neighborhood quality of life, and federal security concerns by examining the existing motor carrier management program within the District of Columbia, examine current truck routes and restrictions, examine motor carrier management practices in other states and cities, and develop a comprehensive motor carrier management program for the District of Columbia.

The study is being prepared by the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center under an agreement with the D.C. Department of Transportation. The study is being prepared using \$700,000 in Homeland Defense Funding. As of October 1, 2003, the Volpe Center has completed their initial research regarding existing motor carrier management activities in the District, conducted surveys of community representatives and stakeholders to obtain their views on truck management issues, investigated best practices

in other jurisdictions, and has prepared a preliminary report documenting these findings and offering preliminary recommendations. The D.C. Department of Transportation has scheduled a public meeting on October 9, 2003 to review this preliminary report and obtain comments.

A revised draft final report will be available for public comment near the beginning of 2004, and a final report with implementation recommendations will be available in the early spring of 2004.

Persons with questions regarding the study should contact:

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